

Open Frontiers International Project



**John
Helliwell**
sax

**Raimondo
Meli Lupi**
guitars

**Paul
Wertico**
drums

**Gianmarco
Scaglia**
bass

The band, formed by **John Helliwell**, sax player for English band *Supertramp*, **Raimondo Meli Lupi** and **Gianmarco Scaglia**, guitarist and bassist for *Open Frontiers Trio* respectively, and **Paul Wertico**, former *Pat Metheny Group* drummer, offers a repertoire of original compositions as well as well-known songs, moving the stylistic research through the territories of interplay and intellectual affinity. The result is an elegant performance, rich in energy and esoteric moods which underlines the musicians empathy in blending their individual musical worlds into a common development of the performance itself.

Jazz with no frontiers; musical and human urge; stylistic, cultural and spiritual enrichment: these are all appropriate ways to define the music of the **Open Frontiers International Project!**

For contacts write to:
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Born February 15, 1945 in Todmorden, Yorkshire (England), **John Helliwell** played sax in various bands, including the 1960s band, *The Alan Bown Set* (as John Anthony), before joining *Supertramp* unofficially in 1973. He has remained with Supertramp ever since, as his saxophone solos (and also sometimes clarinet contributions) became a Supertramp trademark.

He uses Selmer soprano, alto, tenor and baritone saxophones. He also played various additional keyboards and synthesizers in concerts during the 1974-87 period, sang backing vocals, and was the Master of Ceremonies at each Supertramp concert introducing the songs and communicating with the audience.

When not performing with Supertramp, he is oftentimes with his own band, *John Helliwell's Crème Anglaise*. He also played with various artists such as Thin Lizzy and Pink Floyd (he played saxophone on "Terminal Frost").



Born March 11, 1965 in Rome (Italy), **Raimondo Meli Lupi** started classical piano education at the age of 8, then switched to guitar at 11 years old. Raimondo played in various rock bands and in 1985, enlightened by jazz, started his first jazz trio with Gianmarco Scaglia, the *Open Frontiers Trio*, a still working-band to this date.

In 1989 Raimondo met great jazz guitar guru Joe Diorio. The friendship started as a teacher-student relationship and eventually developed into a long and productive recording career.

In 1992, Raimondo established his own record label, RAM RECORDS, and since then produced over 60 recording sessions with jazz artists such as Mick Goodrick, Jerry Bergonzi, John Abercrombie and Hal Crook.

Raimondo's style is harmonically and melodically rich and inventive. His tone round and warm



Born June 22, 1957 in Piacenza (Italy), **Gianmarco Scaglia** started playing the electric bass at the age of 15. After playing in various rock and pop bands, in 1985 he co-founded the jazz band *Open Frontiers Trio* together with Raimondo Meli Lupi, starting a collaboration lasting ever since.

Gianmarco studied upright bass with Bruno Tommaso and Furio Di Castri and in 1986 attended Berklee College of Music and studied with John Repucci.

As a leader, Gianmarco is leading a performing and recording career with great Italian jazz artists like saxophonist Claudio Fasoli and drummer Ettore Fioravanti among the others

"...Scaglia's sound is big and round without being obtrusive, and he walks a slamming bass line that's rock." – JK (Double Bassist).



Born January 5, 1953 in Chicago (USA), **Paul Wertico** began playing drums at the age of 12 and turned professional at the age of 15. Self taught on the drum set, he developed his own rhythmic and musical concepts not only through Jazz and Rock, but through the exposure to all musical idioms. Paul is internationally known as "one of the most versatile and musical drummers in music today".

Paul gained world recognition as a member of the *Pat Metheny Group* from 1983 until 2001, leaving the group to spend more time with his family and to pursue other musical interests. In recent years, Wertico has continued to perform regularly around the world, as well as around Chicagoland, where he is based. This led to the creation of his own band, the *Paul Wertico Trio*, and also several successful collaborations with other jazz notables, such as Larry Coryell, Kurt Elling, and Jeff Berlin.

In reviews, his playing has been compared to that of an "Impressionist painter", while Paul has also been described as "an inspired madman", "a restless innovator", "a true legend of jazz drums", "a master of drumming insanity", and "a genius of the sticks". In 2004, Wertico was honored as a "Chicagoan of the Year" by the Chicago Tribune,

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Date disponibili 27/28/30/31 Luglio 2009

MM Talent Agency è lieta di presentare in esclusiva il progetto
OPEN FRONTIERS INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

Il gruppo è formato dal **John Helliwell**, già sassofonista del gruppo inglese Supertramp, **Raimondo Meli Lupi** e **Gianmarco Scaglia**, rispettivamente chitarra e contrabbasso dell'Open Frontiers Trio, e **Paul Wertico**, ex membro del Pat Metheny Group.

L'Open Frontiers I. P. proporrà un repertorio di brani originali dei vari membri e condurrà la ricerca stilistica nei territori dell'interplay e dell'intesa intellettuale con lo scopo di produrre una performance elegante e ricca di atmosfere magiche ed energiche, volte a sottolineare l'empatia dei musicisti nel condividere i rispettivi mondi musicali per condurli in un comune senso dell'esecuzione.

